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BOROUGH OF



GRANTHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

of the Health of the Borough
for the Year

1955

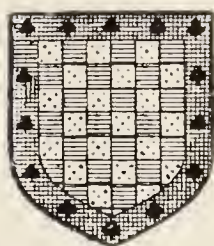
BY THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

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BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor E. Smith (Chairman)
 Councillor H. Cant (Vice-Chairman)
 Alderman B. H. Sindall
 Councillor J. Hardaker
 Councillor R. C. Moore
 Councillor H. J. Pacey
 Councillor A. L. Ramsden
 Councillor J. R. Cook
 Councillor W. A. Howard

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :
 C. W. SHEARER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
 (Appointed February 1955)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :
 C. TAYLOR, (a), (b), (c), (d)

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :
 A. STEWART, (a), (b)
 (Resigned June 1955)

H. S. CHARLTON, (a)
 (Appointed February 1955)
 (Resigned September 1955)

P. J. ADAMS, (a), (b)
 (Appointed December 1955)

- (a) Holds Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute or of Examination Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
- (b) Holds Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
- (c) Holds Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Smoke Inspector.
- (d) Holds Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Sanitary Science.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

16, St. Peter's Hill,
Grantham.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Grantham.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1955.

The birth rate fell and as in 1953 was well below the national average.

There were 14 infant deaths as compared with 8 in 1954. This corresponds to an Infant Mortality Rate of 43.1 per 1,000 live births (national average 24.9). Reference to the table of infant deaths shows that the rise was entirely due to a great increase in deaths attributed to Prematurity. While much can be done nowadays to preserve the lives of premature infants, no great reduction in infant mortality can be expected until practicable measures for preventing premature birth are available.

As for several years past, there were no maternal deaths.

The Death Rate was nearly 25 % above that of 1954, but slightly below that of 1953. The most interesting feature revealed by the table of causes of Death is the increase in deaths due to coronary disease. This is one of the major causes of death among men and also causes a considerable mortality among women, though men are usually attacked at an earlier age. Research workers have found evidence that two of the factors responsible for this disease are excessive intake of fats and insufficient physical exercise, but we do not know the relative importance of these factors, or whether other factors may be involved.

The number of deaths from Cancer (51) was the same as in the previous year. Lung Cancer accounted for 12 deaths, 11 of them in males. There is strong statistical evidence of the association between this terrible disease and tobacco smoking (especially of cigarettes) and it is now up to the individual smoker to decide whether the pleasure he derives is worth the risk he runs.

The analysis of infectious diseases shows that there was a large outbreak of measles, the number of notifications being the highest since 1948. A large number of cases of whooping cough was also

reported. Fortunately none of the cases of measles or whooping cough required admission to hospital and there were no deaths.

The Mass Radiography Unit made a further visit to Grantham in the early part of 1955. As shown in the table, over 5,000 persons were X-rayed and eleven cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis were found. On the previous survey (1953) 13 active cases were discovered. The usual experience of the Unit has been to find a marked decline in the number of active cases discovered on each successive visit. As Grantham has proved an exception to this rule, plans were made for a very intensive survey of the town in 1956. The number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified was two more than in 1954, but in view of the Mass Radiography Unit's visit an increase was to be expected. No new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, but two deaths were caused by this form of the disease.

Four deaths were caused by motor vehicle accidents, and four by other accidents. These other fatal accidents all involved old people in their homes, one death resulting from burns and the other three from injuries due to falls. Dangerous as our roads are, our homes are equally dangerous places, especially for the old and the very young.

A comprehensive account of the Department's work in the field of housing, food hygiene and other environmental matters, follows in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. This work has been greatly handicapped by shortage of staff at a time when increased duties are being placed on health departments. A start has been made on the slum clearance programme. The rate of rehousing of persons living in condemned properties has been regrettably slow. It is unsatisfactory from every point of view that these properties should continue to be occupied for a long period after being condemned..

I have to thank all members of the Council, colleagues in other departments, and all in the Public Health Department, for their continued interest, courtesy, and unfailing help throughout the year.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES W. SHEARER

BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM

STATISTICS

Population (Census 1951)	..	..	..	23405
Population (Mid-year estimate)	..	..	..	23670
Area of Borough	..	..	..	3868 acres
Rateable Valuation (1st April, 1955)	..	..	..	£161383
Sum represented by penny rate (year ending 31st March, 1955)	..	..	..	£632 11 0

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	163	146	309
Illegitimate	11	4	15
Birth rate per thousand estimated population			13.7
Average for England and Wales			15.0

STILL BIRTHS	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	9	1	10
Illegitimate	—	1	1

INFANT MORTALITY	M.	F.	Total
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	8	6	14

DEATHS	M.	F.	Total
Number of Deaths	163	145	308
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population..			13.0
Corrected (for age and sex) death rate per 1,000 population			12.5
Average for England and Wales per 1,000 population			11.7

MATERNAL DEATHS

Deaths from Maternal Causes	0
Maternal mortality per 1,000 total births	0
Average for England and Wales	0.69

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS

Notifications received during the year

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	16	1	—
Pneumonia	8	—	7
Measles	560	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	105	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	3	3	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
Dysentery	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—
Total	696	7	7

Age Distribution of the Notified Infectious Diseases

	Not known	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	3	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	...	8
Measles	8	12	35	54	72	64	290	20	3	...	1	...	1	...	...	560
Encephalitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	7	8	13	14	15	46	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	105
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dysentery ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Total	10	20	43	68	90	79	348	24	3	—	3	2	5	1	—	696

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	Deaths during 1955				New cases during 1955			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 years ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
15—25 years ..	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	—
25—35 years ..	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—
35—45 years ..	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
45—55 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 and over ..	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Not known ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	1	1	1	1	15	6	—	—

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1955	Male	Female
All causes	163	145
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	1
Syphilitic disease	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	5
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	13
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—
Diabetes	—	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	21
Coronary disease, angina	28	13
Hypertension with heart disease	4	1
Other heart disease	34	43
Other circulatory disease	7	7
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	5	2
Bronchitis	8	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	19	13
Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
All other accidents	1	3
Suicide	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—

INFANT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under one day	1—7 days	1—4 weeks	Total Under 4 weeks	1—3 Months	3—12 Months	Total Under 1 Year
Premature Birth	3	5	—	8	—	—	8
Malformation	1	—	1	2	1	—	3
Birth Injuries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia & Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis & Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	2	—	—	2	1	—	3
TOTAL	6	5	1	12	2	—	14

DEATHS FROM CANCER

	Cancer of :						Rate per 1,000 population
	Stomach	Lung, Bronchus	Breast	Uterus	All other sites	Total	
Male	4	11	—	—	12	27	
Female	1	1	4	5	13	24	
Total	5	12	4	5	25	51	2.16

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 — ANNUAL REPORT OF M.O.H.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	25	3	2	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	152	57	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	177	60	2	—

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	1	1	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including those relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	1	—
Total ..	2	2	1	1	—

REPORT OF MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY IN
GRANTHAM, 1955

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
X-rayed on Miniature Film .. ..	..	..	..	2591	2430
Re-called for Large Film .. ..	..	..	..	66	46
Referred to Chest Clinic .. ..	..	..	..	14	7
Referred to own Doctor .. ..	..	..	..	4	8

Cases of :

Pulmonary Tuberculosis post primary Active ..				8	3
Pul. Tub. p.p. Inactive .. ..	..	..	..	8	10
Pneumokoniosis .. ..	..	..	..	1	0
Cardiac Abnormality .. ..	..	..	..	6	9

There were no cases of bronchiectasis or lung cancer.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

NURSING IN THE HOME

Home nursing and domiciliary midwifery is still carried out by the District Nurses stationed at the District Nurses' Home, Castlegate.

HOME HELPS

Help for cases of illness and maternity cases is provided through the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, 40, Westgate.

GENERAL HOSPITALS

The Grantham General Hospital and the Hillview Hospital, Dysart Road, cater for the needs of the area.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS

Maternity accommodation is provided at the above two hospitals.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS

There being no Isolation Hospital in the immediate neighbourhood, accommodation when required has to be sought in neighbouring areas.

TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS

Sanatorium treatment for cases requiring it is arranged by the Regional Hospital Board, who are now responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) PROVIDED BY THE KESTIVEN COUNTY COUNCIL :

Child Welfare :

Six clinics weekly held at the Clinic, 40 Westgate—Dr. in attendance once weekly. Weekly clinic at the Methodist Church Hall, Harrowby Lane, Dr. in attendance once a month.

Diphtheria Immunisation :

At the Child Welfare Clinic on Tuesday afternoons. Free immunisation can also be arranged with general practitioners.

School Clinics :

Beaconfield. Minor ailments daily 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Dr. in attendance Tuesday 9.30 a.m. Specialist services by appointment.

Day Nursery :

The Day Nursery, St. Catherine's Road, provides for children of working parents.

(b) PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY :**Tuberculosis :**

A weekly session is held by the Chest Physician in the Grantham Hospital Out-Patients' Department, on Monday morning.

Veneral Diseases :

A weekly session is held in the Out-Patients' Department of Grantham Hospital on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., and on Fridays (males only) from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

LABORATORY FACILITIES :

Bacteriological investigations are amply provided for by the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln. All necessary chemical analyses are done by Mr. W. W. Taylor, Public Analyst, Nottingham.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Grantham.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my ninth Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the district; during 1955 one of the major tasks was the carrying out of a Housing Survey in order that proposals could be submitted to the Minister for dealing with houses which should be included in Clearance Areas in accordance with Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954; reference to this Survey is made later in this report.

The work of the Department was severely restricted by staff difficulties; one vacancy for an Additional Sanitary Inspector was not filled until March 14th, and a further vacancy arose at the end of June and another one again at the end of August; for over three months I was carrying out my duties without any technical assistance; obviously many statutory duties could not be fulfilled and in the main

day to day work consisted of dealing with complaints, supervision of drainage works, and meat inspection.

Comments and statistics are given below under appropriate headings.

WATER SUPPLY

Twenty-nine samples were taken from the town water supply which is provided by the Grantham Waterworks Company; all were reported to be of a satisfactory bacterial quality; in spite of the drought during the summer months the water supply remained satisfactory and adequate.

Two samples of the water taken for chemical and bacteriological examination were reported upon by the Public Analyst as follows:—

Sample No.	17	18
Supplied from :	Shallow Well	Towns Main
ANALYSIS—Per million parts :		
Chemical		
Total Solids dried at 180°C.	720.00	410.00
Suspended Matter	present	slight traces
Chlorides as chlorine	71.0	24.85
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate	13.00	6.75
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrite	absent	absent
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.52	0.060
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.048	0.020
Temporary Hardness	290.00	182.50
Permanent Hardness	190.00	117.50
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F. from N/80 KMnO ₄	1.08	0.32
pH Value	7.10	7.50
Appearance	slightly turbid	very slightly turbid
Odour	none	none
Taste and Colour	normal	normal
Heavy Metals	absent	absent
Free Chlorine	absent	0.125
Bacteriological		
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21°C. in 72 hrs.	20	7
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 24 hrs.	0	0
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0
Coli-aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0
Bacillus Coli (Presumptive)	absent in 100 mls.	absent in 100 mls.

OPINION

At the time of sampling this water was of suitable bacterial and chemical quality for human consumption and domestic use.

Two notices requiring houses to be provided with an internal water supply in lieu of outside stand-taps were complied with during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMODATION

Sixteen houses still remain with pail closets and removal of night soil is carried out twice weekly by contract.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Extension to the sewerage system was confined to areas of private housing development and the sewers in question have not yet been adopted; twenty-two old drainage systems and ninety-one new drainage systems at existing premises were tested during the year.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

A weekly collection of refuse was maintained with the exception of occasional periods when sickness and inclement weather caused arrears. As in previous years the erection of further new houses calls for additional work by the refuse collection service; in March a new 16 cubic yard S.D. Refuse Collection Vehicle was put into operation. The number of vehicles now in use is 2 x 16 cubic yard and 2 x 7 cubic yard S.D. Freighters.

All refuse was dealt with by controlled tipping, and in April tipping commenced on the Belton Lane Tip, and the Council's decision to purchase a loading shovel fitted with a Dozer Blade has proved to be an extremely beneficial and economical aid in maintaining the tip in a satisfactory manner and free from nuisance.

Salvage activities continued and materials collected and income derived therefrom is given hereunder.

	T	C	Q	£	s.	d.
Mixed Waste and Cardboard	259	8	0	2,200	15	4
Rags	1	18	2	53	18	0
Scrap Iron and Tins	7	1	0	17	3	1
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
				2,271	16	5
				<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

No sites were licensed during the year for the stationing of caravans; visits were made to caravans parking in the town for very brief periods.

An authorised and controlled site with proper facilities to which caravans could be directed would serve a useful purpose, as often caravan owners call at the Health Department enquiring where they may stay, and also it would help to eliminate the indiscriminate and unsightly parking on various plots of waste land in the town.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent control work during 1955 was neglected due to lack of staff; 170 complaints of rat infestations were received and it was extremely difficult to deal with these complaints and give the desired service; your Rodent Officer owing to sickness was absent from work from March 23rd and had not returned at the end of the year; casual and untrained temporary labour was engaged, but this proved unsuccessful as no-one stayed for more than a few weeks; it is work that requires someone who is properly trained, and who must be thoroughly conscientious and reliable. It became increasingly obvious throughout the year that the lack of regular control resulted in more and more complaints being received from all quarters of the town of depredations by rats; this rather confirmed my comments in previous reports that this is an essential public health service much appreciated by the general public.

The following table summarises the work carried out in 1955.

	Council property	Dwelling property	Business property	Agri- cultural property	Total
No. of properties surveyed	7	127	26	—	160
No. found to be infested with rats or mice ...	7	97	22	—	126
No. treated for rats or mice	7	97	22	—	126
No. of visits made for the purpose of treating properties	94	327	134	—	555

Two maintenance treatments of the town sewers were undertaken with the following results :—

From 14.3.55 to 19.3.55			From 3.10.55 to 8.10.55		
No. of manholes pre-baited	..	144	No. of manholes pre-baited	..	141
No. found to be rat infested	..	105	No. found to be rat infested	..	68
No. of pre-baits laid	..	199	No. of pre-baits laid	..	206
No. of manholes poison baited		105	No. of manholes poison baited		68

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No smoke nuisances were recorded during the year and it would appear from general observations that industrial firms were in the main complying with the standard laid down in the bye-laws which were adopted in 1954 regulating the emission of black smoke.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Due to inadequate staff it was not possible for a systematic inspection of factories to be carried out, but visits were made to a number of factories as and when possible, and statistics are tabulated on page 10.

Four certificates were issued under Section 34 specifying that means of escape in case of fire were reasonably adequate.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Five premises are registered under the Act, but no samples of rag flock were submitted for analysis.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING 1955

Complaints reported to the Public Health Department ..	467
Inspection of dwellings where nuisance were found	248
Inspection of other premises where nuisance were found ..	37
Inspection of premises upon complaint where no nuisance were found	61
Re-visits to properties under notice or work in progress ..	981
Inspection of houses (Housing Act, 1936)	46
Re-inspection of houses (Housing Act, 1936)	135
Visits in connection with overcrowding	20
Houses measured up for 'Permitted Numbers'	2
Visits in connection with Improvements Grant	85
Visits in connection with House Survey	235
Miscellaneous visits to properties other than above	68
Visits in connection with Drainage of premises	81
New Drains Tested	91
Old Drains Tested	22
Visits to Bakehouses	26
„ „ dairies and milk shops	28
„ „ ice-cream premises	21
„ „ miscellaneous foodstores and food preparing rooms	49
„ „ cooked food for 'making-up' premises	13
„ „ factories (with mechanical power)	57
„ „ factories (with no mechanical power)	3
„ „ factories (re means of fire escape)	7

Visits to outworkers' premises	4
„ „ fried fish shops	46
„ „ markets, shops and stalls	101
„ „ offensive trade premises	1
„ „ dwelling vans	17
„ „ verminous premises	15
„ „ rat infested lands and premises	237
„ „ cafes and cafe kitchens	23
„ „ cinemas and places of public entertainment	4
„ „ shops (Shops Act, 1950, Section 38)	36
„ „ slaughterhouses	846
„ „ meat purveyors	56
Visits in connection with smoke abatement	16
„ „ „ „ refuse collection and disposal	203
„ „ „ „ salvage collection and disposal	30
„ „ „ „ infectious disease and suspected food poisoning	41
Inspection of licensed premises	14
Number of interviews with builders or owners	224
„ „ samples of water taken for analysis	29
„ „ informal notices served	205
„ „ statutory notices served	21

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

(a) THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

Milk Distributors:

Number on Register at 1st January, 1955 15

Number on Register at 31st December, 1955 15

Dairy Premises:

Number on Register at 1st January, 1955 2

Number on Register at 31st December, 1955 2

Forty-eight samples of Ungraded Milk were taken during the year and were reported upon as follows:—

No. of samples not decolour- ising methylene blue in 4½ hours	No. of samples decolourising methylene blue in 4 hours or less	No. of samples decolourising methylene blue in 2 hours or less	No. of samples decolourising methylene blue in less than 1 hour.
28	5	5	10

Most of these samples were taken from bulk supplies on arrival at the Local Pasteurisation Establishment from farms in the outlying rural district. Particulars of the samples which were reported

upon unfavourably were forwarded to the County Milk Regulations Officer, as it appeared desirable that the conditions under which certain milk supplies were being produced needed a check up.

Twenty-four biological samples were taken during the year, and none of these were reported to be positive.

No. of samples of Pasteurised Milk taken	43
No. found to be satisfactory	43
No. of samples of Sterilised Milk taken	1
No. found to be satisfactory	1

(b) THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of Dealers' Licences issued authorising the use of the Designation 'Sterilised' in relation to milk sold from shops	16
Number of Supplementary Licences issued authorising the use of the Designation 'Sterilised' in relation to milk retailed in the town by an outside firm	1

(c) THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Use of the Special Designation 'Tuberculin Tested'.

No. of Dealers' Licences issued	4
No. of Supplementary Licences issued	1
No. of samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk	27
No. found to be satisfactory	27

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

(a) SAMPLES OF FOOD

Kesteven County Council is the "Food and Drugs Authority," and Mr. E. T. Hawley, Chief Weights and Measures Inspector for the authority, has kindly supplied the following comments and details of samples taken in the Borough of Grantham, during 1955.

Butter Sweets	2
Cheese	1
Coffee extract	1
Cream	6
Cut Peel	1
Gelatine	1
Glace Cherries	1
Ground Almonds	1
Ice Cream	6
Milk	40
Milk Shakes	2
Peppermint Lozenges	1

Pork Sausages	..	..	..	1
Pork Sausage Meat..	..	..	..	1
Pork Pie	..	..	..	1
Preserves	..	..	..	1
Rennet	..	..	..	1
Soft Drinks	..	..	..	1
Tinned Meats	..	..	..	8
				<hr/>
				77
				<hr/>

“All these samples were certified by the Public Analyst, Mr. W. W. Taylor, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., of Nottingham, to be genuine and free from unauthorised preservatives (with one exception) and thus, once again, Grantham’s food supply shows up very well under the scrutiny of legislative examination.

The one article which could not be passed as genuine was a Milk Shake purchased privately from a Grantham milk bar and taken, by a highly disgruntled customer, to the Police who sent it to the Chief Sanitary Inspector. When the sample was collected by this Department it was some days old (a weekend having intervened) and thus the Public Analyst was able to do no more than certify that the fluid contained only 1.0% of butterfat. This was, of course, an “informal” sample and it was not possible to take any action on the basis of this admittedly unsatisfactory report. Subsequently, however, two further samples were obtained from the milk bar in question a strawberry Milk Shake and, on another occasion, a Glass of Milk.

In respect of the strawberry Milk Shake the Analyst reported that the constituents were as follows:—

2.9% butterfat; 7.74% other milk solids and 7.16% added sugar.

In respect of the Glass of Milk the constituents were:

3.7% butterfat; 8.54% other solids and the freezing point—0.534 °C.

While both these results were satisfactory, further samples will be obtained from this source during the coming year.

The 6 samples of Ice Cream were all well above the statutory standard for this commodity (5% fat: 10% sugar and 7.5% milk solids) averaging 10.1% fat, 12.2% sugar and 9.5% milk solids. The 2 “home-made” samples were just as good as the four others of national repute and though the large-scale manufacture of ice cream has tended to eliminate the small man, the fact remains that a Grantham producer still makes an ice cream of first quality.

The 6 samples of Double Cream were all satisfactory, only one falling slightly below the statutory standard of 48% butterfat. The average fat content of all six samples was 53.3%.

Samples of Milk taken in Grantham continue to be of uniformly high quality. There is a steady demand in the Grantham area for the

highest quality (Channel Island) milk and though the minimum butterfat standard for this milk is 4.0 %, most Channel Island samples contained well over 5.0 % of butterfat and over 9.0 % of other solids. One sample of evening's milk from a herd of Jersey cows contained 6.7 % of butterfat.

One sample of Pork Sausages obtained from a Grantham butcher contained 66.6 % of meat while a sample taken from a consignment delivered by another Grantham butcher to the Wharf Road Central Kitchen contained 63.6 %. A range of tinned Meat Products was sampled during the year, when it was found that most brands of Beef Steak contained upwards of 95 % meat. A pork pie submitted for analysis was certified to contain 39.5 % of meat, a most satisfactory proportion of meat in view of the generally accepted notion that 25 % of meat is good enough."

(b) MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

	Manu- facture and Sale of Ice Cream	Sale of Loose Ice Cream	Sale of Pre-Packed Ice Cream
Premises registered 1st Jan. 1955	3	26	42
Premises registered during the year	—	—	7
Registrations cancelled due to cessation of business ...	—	—	—
Premises registered 31st Dec. 1955	3	26	49

Result of Bacteriological Samples (Methylene Blue Test)

Number classified in Grade 1 ..	115
Number classified in Grade 2 ..	9
Number classified in Grade 3 ..	4
	—
Total number of samples taken	128
	—

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

Due to changes and lack of staff, there was a reduction in the number of inspections of food premises, and food hygiene work was

neglected particularly during the last six months of the year.

The number of various types of food premises are given below:

Number of premises registered for the preparation of sausage and meat products	30
Number of bakehouses	24
Number of fish frying premises.. .. .	17
Number of cafes and snack bars	14
Number of factory canteens and other catering premises ..	14
Number of Grocery and miscellaneous stores	74

Improvements effected during 1955 are tabulated below :—

Improvements Effected	Sausage, etc., Manufacturing Premises	Bakehouses	Licensed Premises	Fish Frying Premises	Other Food Shops & stores	Total
Cleaned and Redecorated ..	1	1	—	2	—	4
Constant Hot Water Supply Provided ..	—	—	1	—	1	2
Improved Sanitary Accommodation ..	1	—	1	—	—	2
Otherwise Hygienically Improved ..	—	—	—	1	—	1
Unsatisfactory Premises Discontinued	—	—	1	—	—	1

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

There are two slaughterhouses in use in the town, one small private slaughterhouse and a public slaughterhouse; the former was re-licenced until June 1956; facilities for pig dressing were improved at the public slaughterhouse by the installation of a steam boiler and steam tank, and this slaughterhouse though by no means ideal premises served the needs of the local butchers quite adequately and also catered for a few butchers from the neighbouring rural district; during the latter half of the year the amount of livestock to be slaughtered diminished and the Slaughtering Contractor lost one of his slaughtermen, leaving only one slaughterman to carry out the necessary work. It would appear to me that any possible breakdown in the service provided for the butchers will not result from lack of

suitable premises so much as lack of slaughtermen. There are only two regular full time slaughtermen in the district and one of these is engaged by butchers with private slaughterhouses outside the town. So far as I am aware there have not been any trainees locally in this work for a number of years and it seems unlikely that young men will be attracted to this type of work. After over twelve months experience of operating a small public slaughterhouse especially at premises not specially designed for the purpose, I am more than ever convinced that there is from all angles a need for greater concentration of slaughtering, and the provision of a modern abattoir suitably located to serve a greater population is a desirable need.

Statistics relating to meat inspection carried out at the two slaughterhouses are as follows:—

MEAT INSPECTION AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle (ex. Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Kid Goats
Number killed	774	249	27	3,205	3,928	2
Number inspected	774	249	27	3,205	3,928	2

ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS

Whole Carcasses condemned ..	—	—	2	17	15	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	112	56	1	67	192	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	14.47	22.49	11.01	20.58	5.26	

TUBERCULOSIS ONLY

Whole Carcasses condemned ..	—	2	—	—	—	
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	39	44	—	—	45	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.03	18.47	—	—	1.14	

The entire carcasses and organs of the following animals were condemned for the reasons stated:—

2 Cows	Generalised Tuberculosis
5 Sheep	Emaciation

1 Sheep	..	..	..	Emaciation and Internal Bruising
1 Sheep	..	..	..	Moribund, ill-bled and badly set
1 Sheep	..	..	..	Moribund and Ill-bled
1 Sheep	..	..	..	Sapraemia
1 Sheep	..	..	..	Putrid active metritis
3 Sheep	..	..	..	Moribund
2 Sheep	..	..	..	Oedematous due to Liver Fluke
2 Sheep	..	..	..	Dropsical
1 Pig	..	..	..	Moribund and Molodorous
2 Pigs	..	..	..	Poisoning
6 Pigs	..	..	..	Acute Swine Erysipelas
1 Pig	..	..	..	Pyaemia
1 Pig	..	..	..	Fevered
1 Pig	..	..	..	Peritonitis and Dropsical
1 Pig	..	..	..	Septic Peritonitis
1 Sow	..	..	..	Ill-bled, Moribund and Peritonitis
1 Sow	..	..	..	Uraemia
2 Calves	..	..	..	Immaturity

The total weight of meat and offals condemned as unfit for human consumption was 4 tons 16 cwts. 3 qrs. of which 1 ton 18 cwts. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. was affected with Tuberculosis.

As in previous years, quantities of miscellaneous food commodities were condemned as being unfit for human consumption, including:—

Canned Foods	..	..	..	..	932
Miscellaneous preserved food products					27
Cooked Ham	..	..	..	..	5 lbs. 1 oz.
Bacon	..	..	..	..	49 lbs. 12 oz.
Sausage	..	..	..	..	78 lbs. 12 oz.
Sweets	..	..	..	..	7 lbs. 4 oz.
Cheese	..	..	..	..	52 lbs. 8 oz.
Flour	..	..	..	..	3 lbs.
Fish Cakes	..	..	..	..	12
Cakes	..	..	..	..	1
Cooked Meats	..	..	..	..	2 lbs. 6 oz.
Pork Pies	..	..	..	..	1½
Butter	..	..	..	..	8 oz.
Lentils	..	..	..	..	2 lbs.
Prawns	..	..	..	..	10 lbs.
Salmon	..	..	..	..	11 lbs. 8 oz.
Tea	..	..	..	..	4 oz.
Egg Pie	..	..	..	..	1
Beef Pie	..	..	..	..	1
Orange Squash	..	..	..	..	1 bottle
Shreddies	..	..	..	..	3 packets
Frozen Peas	..	..	..	..	48 „
Porridge Oats	..	..	..	..	1 „

Kellogs Corn Flakes	..	..	..	1 packet
Bananas	..	..	..	11½ cwts.
Coley	..	..	..	2 stone
Crabs	..	..	..	3 „
Haddock Cutlets	..	..	..	2 „
Boned Kippers	..	..	..	2 „
Mussels	..	..	..	3 gallons

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

The number of licensed slaughtermen on the register at 31st December, 1955, was 6.

HOUSING STATISTICS

The housing survey required to be carried out under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 was completed. The visits and inspections made in the short time and with the staff available could only be of a cursory nature, but sufficient information was obtained to formulate a programme of slum clearance for the next five years.

A lengthy report was submitted to the Health Committee upon unfit houses and it was estimated that the number suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 was 270. It was also pointed out in the report that there are in certain areas houses not unfit for human habitation to such a degree as to justify slum clearance nor would they be worth bringing up to modern standards, and that in such cases acquisition and carrying out of minor repairs pending re-development might be worth consideration.

Following upon the adoption of this report, a programme of slum clearance for the first year was drawn up, and it was proposed to deal with 78 houses. Before the end of the year detailed inspections were made of 16 houses, viz: 14 to 22, Brewery Hill and 2 to 8 Artichoke Yard, and these were declared to be clearance areas.

In June the Ministry confirmed a Compulsory Purchase Order in respect of two clearance areas in Inner Street in which were included nineteen houses situate and known as 11/12, 16 and 17 Inner Street, and 4 to 19 Portland Place.

The following statistics will be of interest:

Number of new houses built by the Council	..	..	103
Number of new houses built by private enterprise	..	..	111
Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made (Section 11)	..	..	1
Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	..	..	20

Number of houses in respect of which Undertakings were accepted not to be let again for human habitation	1
Number of houses visited upon complaint of over- crowding	20
Number of houses found to be overcrowded ..	8
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved by the Council during the year.	6

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. TAYLOR

